

to address this Nation's difficult economic times, not just to use this recession as an excuse for the passage of an even larger number of tax cuts.

□ 1015

BANNING HUMAN CLONING

(Mr. RYUN of Kansas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RYUN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, recent polls show 9 out of 10 Americans believe that all cloning should be banned. As Members of Congress, each of us has the responsibility to address this critical issue that the American people care about. Failure to do so is intolerable.

I am categorically opposed to all human cloning, but I rise today on behalf of millions of American people who are concerned about cloning technology and the desire for it to be addressed. This Chamber has already voted overwhelmingly to ban all human cloning. However, a recent announcement that an embryo has been successfully cloned brings an added sense of urgency to banning this practice.

Congress must complete consideration of this issue immediately and send a bill to the President for his signature. The leader of the other body can no longer sit on his hands and ignore his constituents. The American people deserve to be heard and deserve to be represented. This must not be ignored.

CONGRATULATIONS TO DR. LAURA DUHAN KAPLAN AND UNC-CHARLOTTE

(Mr. WATT of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WATT of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Laura Duhan Kaplan, Associate Professor of Philosophy at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, which is located in my congressional district.

On November 13, Dr. Kaplan was named one of four U.S. professors of the year by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education and the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. Dr. Kaplan was honored for her creative and nontraditional methods of teaching philosophy, which have made her classes a favorite of UNC-Charlotte students and earned praise from her colleagues.

Dr. Kaplan's award is an honor for her and the entire UNC-Charlotte community. UNC-Charlotte becomes the first university in the Nation to have three U.S. Professors of the Year serving on its faculty.

I offer my congratulations to Dr. Kaplan and to the University of North Carolina at Charlotte on this high honor.

TRADE PROMOTION AUTHORITY IS IMPERATIVE

(Mr. LINDER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, free and fair trade is the foundation of our capitalist society. It creates jobs and improves wages. It contributes to economic growth and improves standards of living. It promotes freedom, opportunity and openness.

One in ten Americans work in export-related jobs. Typically, those jobs pay 18 percent more than the national average. In addition to rising wages, trade has resulted in lower prices, resulting in a benefit of between \$1,300 and \$2,000 per year for the average family of four. Clearly, American workers benefit from expanded trade.

The benefits of trade reaped by American workers and their families extend to the entire U.S. economy, as trade facilitates our global competitiveness. Exports have accounted for nearly one-quarter of U.S. economic growth during the past decade. In fact, NAFTA and the Uruguay Round combined have increased U.S. income by nearly \$60 billion per year. Further, U.S. industrial production is 48 percent higher today than in 1990, prior to the enactment of NAFTA and the Uruguay Round.

The passage of Trade Promotion Authority is imperative. Free trade will stimulate our economic recovery and preserve the very core of capitalism. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 3005.

H.R. 1343, LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT HATE CRIMES PREVENTION ACT

(Ms. WOOLSEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, it is time to bring the bipartisan bill, the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act, of the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS) to the floor to be voted on.

The terrorists who committed the atrocities on September 11 want nothing less than to destroy our American way of life. Terrorists want our children to grow up divided because of weaknesses, not unified by America's strengths.

The Conyers' bill, supported by 199 bipartisan cosponsors, defends every American from the kind of hate and bigotry that has followed September 11, particularly our children.

Kids, because of the way they appear, have been beaten by their peers, harassed at their schools, and spit on in supermarkets. We must give local law enforcement the tools that they need to punish and prevent these crimes. The Conyers Hate Crime Prevention Act will do just that.

AGAINST CLONING: DESIGNING DISCARDABLE DONORS

(Mr. STEARNS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, last Sunday, we heard the news that a Massachusetts biotechnology firm had turned a revolutionary scientific corner. Delicately transferring human DNA into a donated human female egg, they then artificially nurtured the egg into a 6-cell embryo. The embryo then went off about its business, dividing as if fertilized by a sperm, but stopped far short of maturing into a baby.

Their objective in creating this being? To harvest its stem cells to be crafted into potential replacement tissues for patients suffering from various degenerative diseases. Advanced Cell Technology, Inc. positions the product of their research as "only cellular life, not human life." Still, building a life, whether you call it a "cellular life" or a "human life" to serve as a discardable donor is not moral science.

The House passed H.R. 2505, a human cloning prohibition in July, and I urge our colleagues in the Senate to expeditiously pass legislation banning such destructive research.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMPSON). The Chair would remind Members they should not urge action in the other body.

FIRST THINGS FIRST

(Mr. PRICE of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, in recent months, we have passed legislation to rebuild the communities ravaged by terrorism, to bring down the Taliban and root out the al-Qaeda network, and to make our skies safer for the flying public. But there is one glaring omission, left out of the airline bailout bill, left out of the aviation security bill, and that is the workers laid off in the aftermath of these attacks.

What we have known for weeks is now official: Our economy is spiraling downward in a recession worsened by the events of September 11. North Carolina's unemployment rate for last month was 5.4 percent, the highest it has been in almost 9 years.

In this time of financial crisis, we need a recovery plan that includes all our citizens, not just the big corporations looking to benefit from a pre-existing Republican tax cut agenda. Our Republican friends have found time to pass a 16-year refund of the alternative minimum tax for large corporations, but precious little for the